

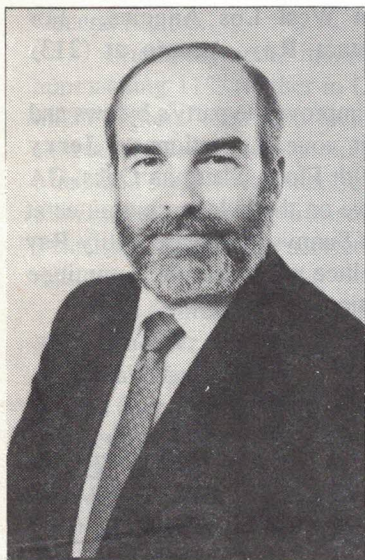


California

-- Volume 7, Number 7 -- October 1992

# Libertarian News

## CANDIDATES ENTER HOME STRETCH



**ANDRE MARROU**  
for President of the United States



**DR. NANCY LORD**  
for Vice President of the U. S.



**RICHARD BODDIE**  
for U. S. Senate



**JUNE GENIS**  
for U. S. Senate

Over 700 Libertarians are running for office around the country, including 98 in California. Dozens more nationally are seeking non-partisan offices like city council seats and school board seats.

Presidential nominee **Andre Marrou** and his running mate, **Dr. Nancy Lord**, have submitted the paperwork necessary to be on the ballot in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Guam. If the ballot effort is successful, as expected, this will be the first Libertarian ticket since 1980 to achieve this goal. Marrou, 53, is a former Alaska state legislator and M.I.T.-trained engineer who now lives in Illinois. He was the LP vice

presidential candidate in 1988. Lord, 40, is both a medical doctor and attorney who previously ran for Mayor of Washington, DC.

Marrou is anxious to debate Bush and Clinton, but is unlikely to be offered the opportunity. We have now learned that the League of Women Voters wanted to include our 1988 nominee, **Dr. Ron Paul**, in the Bush-Dukakis debates. The Demopublicans responded by forming a "bi-partisan" debates commission to circumvent the League's plans. We can be sure the League is out of the loop again this year.

The Marrou/Lord Campaign has produced a 30-second television spot that will be aired on superstations WGN  
Cont. on page 3 -- See "Campaigns"



### BALLOT RECOMMENDATIONS

The Libertarian Party of California has taken these positions on the November ballot propositions:

- Prop. 155 - \$900 million school bonds - NO
- Prop. 156 - \$1 billion rail transportation bond- NO
- Prop. 157 - Makes toll roads toll free after 35 years - NO
- Prop. 158 - Office of California Analyst - NO
- Prop. 159 - Auditor General - NO
- Prop. 160 - Property Taxes/Veteran exemption - YES
- Prop. 161 - Terminal Illness Initiative - YES
- Prop. 162 - Public Empl. Retirement - NO POSITION
- Prop. 163 - Snack Tax Repeal Initiative - YES
- Prop. 164 - Term Limits for Congress - YES
- Prop. 165 - Welfare/Budget Initiative - YES
- Prop. 166 - Basic Health Care Initiative - NO
- Prop. 167 - High Income Tax Hike Initiative - NO

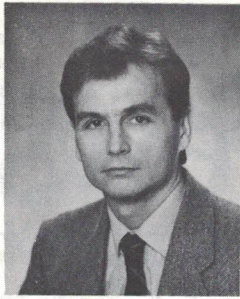
### WANTED!! NEW EDITOR

After two years I have decided to retire as editor of *California Libertarian News*. A dedicated volunteer is needed to take over by the end of the year. I currently write the newsletter and it is laid out and printed by Chuck Geshlider of Gold Standard Press in Las Vegas, NV. He then returns it to me for labeling and bulk mailing.

We need a Libertarian who is familiar with what is going on in the state party or who is willing to find out. There are many unsolicited contributions of articles and letters that make the editor's job easier in some months. For more information, call me at (818) 568-8404. The new editor is subject to Executive Committee approval, so please apply before the committee's November 7 meeting.

- Ted Brown





## FROM THE CHAIR

Pat Wright

Welcome to a special pre-election and outreach issue of *California Libertarian News*. This newsletter is going to everyone on our mailing list -- a total of about 15,000 of you.

If you're not already a member of the Libertarian Party of California, *what the heck are you waiting for?* How high do your taxes have to go or how many of your liberties will you allow to be taken away before you take action?

We've made it easy for you. Enclosed with this newsletter is a postage-paid membership form. For \$25 you can make a real commitment to fight back and reclaim the liberties we Americans have lost under Republican and Democratic "leadership." For an extra \$20 you can join the National Libertarian Party and really come through as a patriot.

But if you're one of our many friends suffering through the Reagan-Bush-Wilson depression, hang on! We won't take you off our mailing list unless you request us to do so.

In the meantime, we Libertarians have a huge job. The election is just the beginning. After November we have to continue to build our party into a real force to challenge those anti-liberty efforts of our opponents. I hope that after the election the focus of the Libertarian Party shifts to a more activist role, working to make real changes in the policies of our government in regards to such issues as taxes, seizure laws, etc. I believe we need to be activists to attract enough new members to keep the party growing.

If you're not a member now, you probably won't hear about it. At least not early in the process. When your grandchildren ask you what you did to restore the American Dream, how are you going to explain that you were on the sidelines?

I know, I'm guilty of cheap sentimentalism. I hope it works.

## STATE PARTY UPDATE

Party membership now stands at 3,515 members, plus 256 more who have joined but have not signed the membership pledge, for a grand total of 3,771 members as of August 31, 1992.

The Libertarian Party of California State Executive Committee will hold its quarterly meeting Saturday, November 7, at the Libertarian Party of Los Angeles office, 11500 W. Olympic Blvd., Suite 400, in West Los Angeles. For information and agenda, contact **Ray Acosta** at (213) 727-5979.

If you have ideas on how to improve the party's bylaws and convention rules, please submit your suggestions to **Jerry Collette**, 15303 Ventura Blvd. 9th Floor, Sherman Oaks, CA 91403. If you would like to serve on the bylaws committee at the February state convention in Sunnyvale, please notify Ray Acosta, as the Executive Committee will select the committee members at the November 7 meeting.

## DIRECTORY

### Officers:

<b>Chair:</b> Pat Wright	(619) 497-1085
<b>No. Vice Chair:</b> Bill Evers	(415) 858-1842
<b>So. Vice Chair:</b> Bob Weber	(310) 204-0612
<b>Secretary:</b> Ray Acosta	(213) 727-5979
<b>Treasurer:</b> Jerry Douglas	(818) 225-1776

### Liberty Bell Computer BBS:

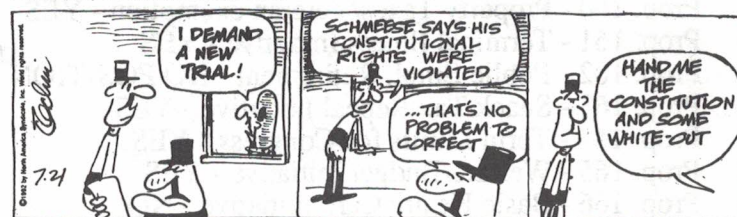
FIDO-NET: 143/6	(408) 243-1933
Modem Parameters 8,N,1:	
Modem speeds 300/1200/2400 baud	

<b>National LP Headquarters</b>	(202) 543-1988
<b>Marrou/Lord Campaign</b>	(202) 546-6095
<b>Boddie for U. S. Senate</b>	(800) 626-3343
<b>Genis for U. S. Senate</b>	(800) 894-5863
<b>LPC Inquiry Line -</b>	
for more information	(800) 637-1776

The next *California Libertarian News* will be a combined November-December issue that will be mailed in mid-November. This will include election news and results. Deadline for submissions is November 1.

**RICHARD BODDIE HQ: 1-800-6BODDIE**  
**JUNE GENIS HQ: (415) 851-5224**

**CROCK** By Bill Rechlin and Don Wilder



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# FLICKINGER CUTS BACK CITY HALL

by Laura G. Brown

In the political year of the woman, Libertarian **Bonnie Flickinger** is making her influence felt in local government in Moreno Valley, a Riverside County city of 130,000. Flickinger, a legal secretary and former treasurer of the Libertarian Party of California, led a field of six candidates to win a city council seat in the June election. She has wasted no time getting to work and cutting back City Hall.

In one of her first actions before the council, Flickinger presented a laundry list of items to be cut from the city budget. This audacious move by the rookie council member resulted in \$139,000 being cut from the 1993 budget.

In a local editorial, Flickinger defended her actions against critics who said she was callous toward city workers who might lose their jobs. She stated that her view of government budgets is a simple one: "Income must be greater than outgo." She also said that in order to cut back city government, "elected officials have to say 'no' to some very nice, well-intentioned people, simply because what they want to do isn't what the taxpayers want to pay for."

In other local actions during her first three months in office, Flickinger held up an increase in building permit fees, solicited the help of city employees to act as whistleblowers in ferreting out unnecessary spending, and told city administrators to update their resumes if their jobs were not essential. "The only areas that I would say are untouchable ... are basic police and fire services ..." Flickinger said during her second council meeting.

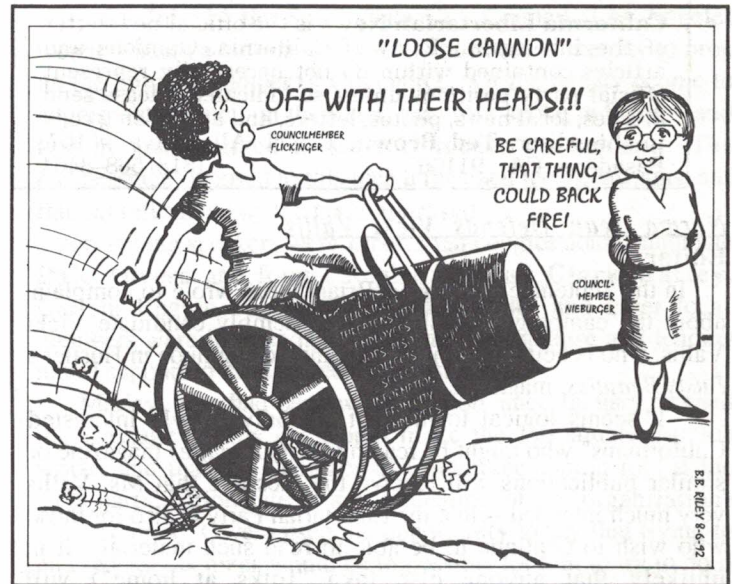
While she has been criticized as being uncaring toward city employees and their families, and lampooned in a newspaper cartoon that depicting her atop a cannon yelling, "Off with their heads!" to the employees, other have spoken out in her favor. City resident Larry Holland wrote to the local paper, the *Valley Times*: "If it takes the defeat of a conservative Republican for a Libertarian, in-your-face, get-your-act-together or we'll dump-your-tea-in-the-ocean, then so be it!"

## "Campaigns" -- cont. from page 1


(Chicago) and WTBS (Atlanta), along with local cable stations with the help of local Libertarian fundraising. The ad was test-marketed by experts, who found that viewers were more likely to vote for Marrou after seeing it. To contribute to the TV ads, send your check to Marrou/Lord Campaign, 1528 Pennsylvania Ave. S. E., Washington, DC 20003, phone (202) 546-6095.

In California there is the unprecedented situation of two U. S. Senate seats up for grabs. Libertarian **Richard Boddie** is facing Senator John Seymour and Dianne Feinstein for the short seat, and **June Genis** is challenging Bruce Herschensohn and Rep. Barbara Boxer for the full term. Boddie is an adjunct professor of business and law from Orange County and a well-known motivational speaker. Genis is a computer scientist at Stanford University long active in Libertarian circles and on the San Mateo County political scene.

Boddie expects to spend a month campaigning throughout California in a motor home, stopping at small cities where he usually receives positive media coverage. He has spoken to the



This cartoon appeared in the *Valley Times*, 8/6/92, -- probably the first political cartoon featuring a Libertarian office-holder.



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Orange County Bar Association and a convention of H. Ross Perot supporters. He has been covered fairly by the Orange County Register, which has been publishing the positions of all five candidates in the race. At the Los Angeles County fairbooth, visitors often recognize Boddie from his picture. To contribute to the Boddie Campaign, send your check to P. O. Box 2056, Laguna Beach, CA 92654, or phone 1-800-6BODDIE.

June Genis initially planned to run a paper campaign, but when Boxer and Herschensohn won their respective primaries, she found herself the "moderate" choice in the race -- someone who is both pro-choice and fiscally conservative, and thus decided to campaign actively. She has challenged her opponents to debate and reports that Herschensohn will agree to her inclusion if Boxer agrees as well. Evidently Boxer has not yet agreed. Boxer is easy to run against (for both Genis and Herschensohn) since she has been rated the biggest spender in Congress! The Genis campaign has opened a headquarters in San Francisco with a 7' x 10' billboard outside. To help send the candidate on a campaign tour of her own, send your contribution to 1806 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94102, phone 1-800-894-JUNE.

96 other California Libertarians are running for U. S. Congress, State Senate and State Assembly. Reports are not in from all areas, but San Diego reports 11 active candidates out of 13. Also in San Diego **Dick Rider** reports that conventional politicians have been asking him for support since he showed so

Cont. on page 4 -- See "Campaigns"





## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**California Libertarian News** is the official newsletter of the Libertarian Party of California. Opinions and articles contained within do not necessarily represent official party positions unless so indicated. Please send articles, local news, photos, letters, and advertising copy to the editor: **Ted Brown**, 125 N. Allen Ave. #107, Pasadena, CA 91106 (818) 568-8404

### Norma Jean Defends Vicki Vallis

Editor:

In the September *CL News*, Brian Schar wrote to complain about the campaign techniques of Assembly candidate Vicki Vallis, who is being interviewed by and posing nude in *Hustler's Busty Beauties* magazine.

It seems logical to me that the only "newly interested Californians" who might be reading *Busty Beauties* magazine or similar publications will receive the message that Ms. Vallis very much intended -- that the Libertarian Party is also for those who wish to continue to be able to read such material. It is unlikely that anyone else (aka "folks at home") will "accidentally" come across the nude photos and be shocked that Libertarians also espouse personal and First Amendment freedoms.

As far as gimmicks not working, who knows? They didn't hurt in my case, since despite the cheesecake posters in my 1986 campaign, people still got the message and may have joined the LP, including Mr. Schar.

Are those who come into the Libertarian Party via personal freedom not as welcome because they are not as philosophically pure as those entering as proponents of private property rights? Shall we discriminate between readers of *Hustler* and readers of the *Wall Street Journal*, and say that the former are not as important to the LP?

What happened to the libertarian concept of "freedom is for

### Support Freedom of the Press

Advertise in the California Libertarian News!

"Campaigns" -- cont. from page 3

well in the race for County Supervisor in June (19%). Rider has also submitted arguments against Proposition A, a 1/2 cent sales tax hike for jails, plus a school bond in Fallbrook and a Gann spending limits override measure in Del Mar.

Other local measures that have drawn Libertarian opposition are Measure A in Santa Clara County, a 1/2 cent sales tax extension for twenty years. County Chair **Jon Petersen** and others signed the opposing argument. In Los Angeles, County Chair **Ted Brown** has signed on with the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association and others in signing the argument against Proposition A, called the "Safe Parks Act," which is really a tax hike to buy parkland in every city in the county.

Statewide, Brown wrote the argument against Proposition 155, a \$900 million school construction bond. Senate candidates Boddie and Genis also signed it. A similar measure (Prop. 152) only won with 52% in June, so the prospects of an upset look good.

Stay tuned for the next issue of *California Libertarian News* for all the election results and important campaign news.

everyone?" If the LP position on personal freedom has become an embarrassment, what is the difference between the LP and other political parties? The Democrats have abandoned civil liberties and the Republicans were never concerned about them. Now will Libertarians also shove civil liberties in the corner like an unwanted, illegitimate stepchild?

Shall the LP continue to treat its position on issues like censorship, pornography, prostitution, drugs, and gambling as though they were not as important as its position on taxation, the draft, and private property? Surely it isn't good for our newly acquired image as a serious political participant to allow people to know that we hold these views -- it may scare them away!

Freedom is freedom, and no true Libertarian should judge who is a more "legitimate participant" in the political process -- "People like us" (Richard Boddie, June Genis, and Andre Marrou, who aim for the respectable "folks at home,") or Vicki Vallis, who reaches for the libertine readers of adult magazines.

**Norma Jean Almodovar**

Los Angeles, CA

*(Almodovar is well-known to Libertarians as the traffic-cop-turned call girl - turned 1986 candidate for Lt. Governor. Her long-awaited book, From Cop to Call Girl, is due out next year.)*

### The DMV and Social Security Numbers

Editor:

Since January 2 I have been campaigning against SB 395 and AB 1297, bills passed last year that require Californians to give their Social Security numbers to the DMV in order to register their cars and obtain driver's licenses. I have sent letters to newspapers and to the bills' sponsors -- Senator Rebecca Morgan (R-Los Altos Hills) and Assemblyman Phillip Isenberg (D-Sacramento). The passage of these two laws proves once again how the Republicrats have melded together to oppress us all.

I am pleased to announce that the *Orange County Register* has editorialized (July 14) in favor of repealing these laws. As the editor wrote, "The legislators don't seem to have considered for a moment the privacy aspect of the requirement ... Use of the SS number should be reduced, not expanded. Californians are already more monitored than is healthy in a free society. This law should be repealed."

Senator Morgan has jumped onto Hillary Clinton's bandwagon because it is Mrs. Clinton who is campaigning nationwide for all DMVs in all states to collect SS numbers for the purpose of "tracking down deadbeat dads who owe child support."

This campaign is already running into trouble in Illinois and in Missouri, where my sister advises that the DMV has backed off and said the program is "voluntary." Apparently there are some Americans who cherish their freedom and who are fighting to defend it.

**Don Hull**

Costa Mesa, CA





## RENAISSANCE BOOKSHOP

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## HAPPY DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN!!

by Randall Grindle

"Regulating just for the sake of regulating" must stop, Lake County Administrator Kelley Cox told the Board of Supervisors. The county can no longer afford such bureaucracy, due to the budget cuts of state funds and decreased revenue due to the recession; nor can local government afford to throttle the county's economic development with over-regulation, Cox said. In response the Board is in the process of repealing an overly restrictive "road grading on private property" ordinance, much to the dismay of the planning department.

The Lake County administrator called for the establishment of a citizens' taxpayer committee to advise where and how the 10% cutback in the county budget can be made. Such cutbacks are occurring all over California. And they offer Libertarians the opportunity to put into practice what we've been preaching.

Libertarians can find numerous practical ways to reduce government through privatization and other means by reading Robert Poole's book *Cutting Back City Hall* and Bennett and Johnson's book *Better Government at Half the Price*. The Reason Foundation (publishers of *Reason* magazine) has a Local Government Center which provides more details on how to dismantle the state. Armed with this information, Libertarians should now march on their local city hall and county courthouse.

Counties are mandated by the state government to provide programs such as welfare. However, the state does not provide the money to pay for these programs. Thus, county supervisors could violate these laws, and not provide money for the mandated programs. Jury nullification by a local jury would let the supervisors off if the state tried to prosecute the supervisors for not funding the programs. And I pointed out to them that as jurors became aware of their power to veto bad laws, that the people of Lake County would de facto repeal many county programs.

Enough talk about some ideal Libertarian state. Grab your blue pencils and budget axes and let's get out there and do it to them before they do it to us.

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Eric Sprik

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(must present coupon when dropping off clothes)

## LIBERTARIANS TO CHAMBER: DROP DEAD!

On July 14 the South Gate City Council (Los Angeles County) heard a motion to tax every business in the city to prop up the failing Chamber of Commerce. Of the twenty people to address the council on the issue, only four spoke in favor -- and two of them wanted to severely reduce the amount. The businessmen opposed to this idea threatened recall, lawsuits, and flat out refusal to pay the tax if approved.

Among the speakers were Libertarian congressional candidate Dale Olvera and former Region 65 chair Clark Marley. Current Region 65 chair Jean Taborsky and other local members were in attendance, leading the applause and lending moral support to the enraged businessmen.

Marley, who had been without a job since January, argued that passage of this tax would make the job situation much worse, and that the Chamber of Commerce should fold if the 11% participation rate is any indication of the organization's effectiveness. Olvera used the opportunity to say that trying to end federal tax hikes would be impossible for him to try to do if he was elected and sent to Washington, when local governments keep trying to enact stupid taxes like this one.

Following the council's vote to table the decision in order to solicit more business community (negative) input, Olvera and Taborsky began networking -- while Marley received an offer from Louis Matter of Gateway Business Forms for a management position with their operation in Oxnard. Marley began his new job in August.

On August 25 the council finally killed the subsidy by a 5-0 vote. The council members urged the Chamber to re-form itself because it didn't have the support of the business community.

## LP TAKES A STAND FOR YOUR HEALTH FREEDOM

The Libertarian National Committee has endorsed Senate Bill 2835, The Health Freedom Act of 1992. This bill, by U. S. Senator Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) would stop the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) from censoring labels for vitamins, minerals and herbs.

The bill would allow food supplements to continue making health claims on their labels. "This bill is a good first step in limiting the FDA's control over our lives and our health. Americans should not need permission from the FDA to take vitamins, minerals and herbs. The consumer can read a label as well as any bureaucrat can," said LP national chair Mary Gingell.

"The FDA tries to stop any practice it considers unconventional, or outside mainstream medicine, even when there is evidence that a treatment can be beneficial. The FDA is controlled by the medical establishment, and the medical establishment has a clear bias against alternative medical care." Gingell said.

Gingell has criticized recent raids on health food stores and clinics to seize vitamins with unapproved labels. On May 6 armed federal and state agents raided the Tahoma Clinic in Kent, WA, by busting down the doors and holding terrified employees at gunpoint. The owner of the clinic, Dr. Jonathan Wright, has endorsed Libertarian Andre Marrou for President. Only the Libertarian Party advocates the abolition of the FDA.





## Upcoming Events

\* **Thursday, October 8:** Vice Presidential nominee **Dr. Nancy Lord** visits Los Angeles for a fundraiser at 202 N. Ridgewood Place (near Van Ness and Beverly Blvd.). Cost is \$35 for a single/\$50 for a couple. RSVP to (818) 780-9943.

\* **Saturday, October 10:** Libertarian Hike, 10 a.m. at the Pleasanton Ridge Regional Park (Alameda County). Meet in the parking lot just inside the entrance to the park. The trail is five miles long. The first part is a bit of a climb, but the reward is the outstanding view. Bring binoculars to watch the hawks. For more information, contact **Dave Wolen** at (408) 378-3041.

\* **October 13-14:** Presidential nominee **Andre Marrou** will visit Los Angeles and is expected to speak to a town meeting event. For information, call (818) 780-9943.

\* **Tuesday, November 3:** Election Day. Vote early, and often! Seriously, you may want to attend one of the Libertarian victory parties to be held that evening. In Los Angeles County, the party will be at the Holiday Inn in Burbank, just off I-5 at Olive St., 8 p.m. to midnight. There is a big screen TV and hors d'oeuvres will be served. Cost is \$10 for members, \$15 for couples, \$5 for guests. Candidates are urged to attend. This will also be the victory party for the "No on 155" campaign. Orange County's party, featuring U. S. Senate candidate **Richard Boddie**, will be held at Randall's Art Gallery, 3 Hutton Center Drive, in Santa Ana.

## LIBERTARIAN NOTES

\* **Steve Pencall** is starting a column for this newsletter entitled "Profiles in Statism." The column will focus each month on politicians, agencies and other public figures who believe in big government and act upon their beliefs to the detriment of our liberties. Submit your nominees for this honor to Steve at 23611 Golden Springs Dr., #1-3, Diamond Bar, CA 91765, (714) 860-1541.

\* Libertarian **Justine tenZeldam** publishes *West Point News*, a monthly newsletter of opinion and events in that Calaveras County community. For more information, contact West Point News, P. O. Box 987, West Point, CA 95255, phone (209) 293-4062.

\* **Rev. Daniel John Gorham** has been selected for *Who's Who in Religion*. Gorham, an Orange County Libertarian, publishes *Axios*, an Eastern Orthodox magazine. He was an LP congressional candidate in 1982. He reports that the volume mentions his Libertarian activities.

**Wanted:** Libertarian machine shops to make parts for our line of precision electronic instruments. Mill, lathe, stamping, welding, sheet metal work all required. Send qualifications to Gary Holzhausen, 1336 Brommer St., Santa Cruz, CA 95062.

## News Briefs

\* Churches in Berkeley are being ordered to pay taxes like other nonprofit organizations in the city. The rate is 60 cents for every \$1,000 in donations they receive. Congregations must register like other non-profit groups. The city finance director said that Berkeley must either exclude all nonprofit groups from taxation or tax them all equally. Libertarians of course, advocate excluding all nonprofit groups from taxation.

\* Attempts to censor literature in U. S. schools reached an all-time high in 1991, with California tying for second place in a ranking of "attacks on freedom to learn," according to a study by People for the American Way. Incidents in El Cajon, Escondido and Fallbrook (all in San Diego County) were among the 27 challenges to school reading material or curricula reported in California. The works challenged included such classics as Harper Lee's "To Kill a Mockingbird," John Steinbeck's "Of Mice and Men," and Mark Twain's "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn."

The group said the increase in incidents reflects "the larger national climate of intolerance" in American society which he blamed on "the Religious Right and the far right political groups." Conservative activists have been particularly successful in winning school board races in the San Diego area.

\* Lawyers for a coalition of California cities asked the state Supreme Court to give cities more power to force adult bookstores to relocate, even if it could put them out of business. The court, hearing arguments in a test of free speech against efforts to curb "crime and blight," was asked to overturn a 1991 appeals court decision striking down a National City (San Diego County) zoning ordinance on grounds that the stores were not provided with economically practical alternative sites.

Under the National City ordinance, adult establishments cannot be located within 1,000 feet of a residential area or 1,500 feet of a school, park or other adult business. The exception would be an enclosed retail mall. Chuck's Bookstore challenged the law, stating that it would be prohibitively expensive to move to one of the legally acceptable areas, and that the three enclosed malls in town refused to rent space to his business. The state Court of Appeals agreed that the ordinance violated the First Amendment. In the appeal, Los Angeles, San Diego and over 50 other cities have backed National City's anti-freedom efforts.

### Politician Steals Grinch's Lines

"I have not seen a tax I do not like  
I have not seen a tax I would not hike  
I have not seen a tax that did no good  
I would tax everything if I could...  
I know I have a heart of gold  
I know my heart is warm, not cold  
I know I want to spend all that's yours  
And hers and theirs and ours..."

-- "Democrat Fiscal Policy  
Explained by Dr. Seuss"  
by State Senator Newton Russl  
(R-Glendale)

### Libertarian Offers Equal Opportunity

"I have not seen a tax I do not like  
I have not seen a tax I would not hike  
I've lied for a tax that did no good  
I've lied to you whenever I could...  
It is my privileged friends to whom  
I pledge your gold  
It is your mind I wish to mold  
It is 'community standards', the  
excuse for our control  
the way you think, and drink, and  
sacrifice your soul..."

-- "Republican Governing Policy  
Explained by Dr. Seuss"  
by Publisher Chuck Geshlider  
(L-Las Vegas)





# CURING OUR SICK ECONOMY

Special to the Cal LP News --

by Jarret Wollstein

The U. S. economy shows many signs of being very sick, and there are few signs pointing to recovery. Bank failures and business bankruptcies are at the highest levels since the Great Depression. A list of failed and ailing companies reads like a "Who's Who" of American business: Eastern Airlines, Macy's, General Motors.

Unemployment, including "discouraged workers," is approaching 11% (higher in California), and is expected to go much higher. State and local government budgets are being squeezed. New York is cutting over \$1 billion in welfare costs. Maryland's governor has submitted a "Doomsday Budget" eliminating entire departments and laying off thousands. In Tennessee, school bus service has been discontinued for many rural areas.

These figures only begin to convey the human costs of our sick economy: White collar executives forced to take jobs at McDonalds just to bring in extra income. Middle class families evicted from their homes and forced to live in their cars. Welfare recipients removed from welfare rolls without notice and reduced to picking through garbage for food.

The U. S. economy has been in recession since the winter of 1988-89. Two recent major events triggered and aggravated the crisis.

The Tax Act of 1986 crippled the real estate market -- the linchpin of our economy. This act eliminated many tax deductions for investing in real estate, and increased capital gains taxes on property. By early 1992, real estate prices had declined nationwide by 9.2%, and in some cases the decline has been over 20%. Construction has almost stopped, throwing thousands of workers out of their jobs.

The Savings and Loan Crisis undermined confidence in our financial institutions, generating huge losses for taxpayers, flooding a weak market with vast inventories of real estate, and forcing banks to cut off loans to thousands of companies. The government's inventory of unsold properties is now over one trillion dollars, and it grows every day as S&Ls continue to fail.

These events triggered the recession, but they were not the underlying cause of our economic problems. If our economy had been truly healthy, their impact would have been minimal. The real culprit is the cancerous growth of government.

For nearly 200 years America was the most prosperous society in the world. We had the highest living standard, the best schools and most productive industries. But that prosperity

was a direct result of the freedoms that we enjoyed -- particularly freedom of enterprise.

The Great Depression of the 1930s preceded a fundamental change in the role of government. Blamed on the free market, the depression was actually caused by monetary controls and protectionism, and was actually made much worse by Roosevelt's New Deal. Before the New Deal, government was primarily a policeman, prohibiting force and fraud from the marketplace. The New Deal legitimized peacetime price controls, massive increases in government employment, huge rises in taxes, bureaucratic control of industry, and national welfare programs. Since the New Deal, government has become the "Great Provider" which redistributes wealth, controls the most minute details of the economy, and takes as much of our income as it sees fit.

Today there is no enterprise, no transaction, and no service, however humble, that government does not control. The state regulates what crops a farmer can grow in his own fields, how many hours office workers can be employed, and even the words that can be used to describe potato(e) chips. Government dominates education, communications, transportation, banking and manufacturing. In short, government now controls the entire economy.

More onerous taxes and regulations lie ahead. The 1990 Federal Clean Air Act (which will close many businesses without cleaning much air) will cost the economy over \$40 billion per year. Compliance with the 1991 Americans With Disabilities Act will cost U. S. enterprises tens of billions a year. Senator Kennedy's National Health Insurance Bill would require a new national 7% business tax. If a bill like this passes, the U.S. will experience bankruptcy and unemployment levels surpassing those of the Great Depression.

Sixty years ago, all taxes combined took less than 5% of the average American's income. Today taxes *directly* consume at least 35-40% of our income. But that is just the beginning. According to James Payne, director of Lytton Research and Analysis, "For every dollar that the federal government raises, an additional 65 cents is spent by the private sector on tax-related expenses, including time, telephones, cars and computers needed to comply with IRS rules." When you add the compliance costs, over 57% of the average American's income is confiscated by government. When you also factor in economic regulations, government is reducing our standard of living by a least 70%.

Taxes and regulations have become an intolerable social

Cont. on next page -- See "Sick"

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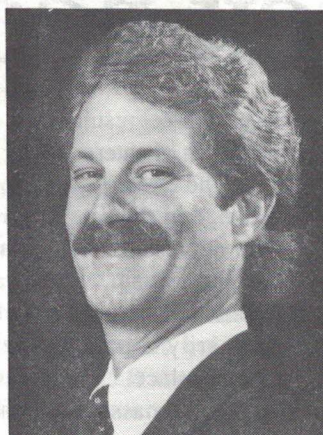
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# CAMARILLO'S BROWN: MAKING IT A THREE- STARR WIN?



As we reported last month, Libertarian **Bill Brown** is running a hard-hitting campaign for City Council in Camarillo, a Ventura County community of 50,000. He is a former sheriff's deputy and now a practicing attorney who plans to walk to thousands of homes between now and November 3.

Brown's campaign is being run by **Aaron Starr**, who has already masterminded the successful elections of **Sandi Webb** to the Simi Valley City Council in November 1990 and **Bonnie Flickinger** to the Moreno Valley City Council in June 1992, both mid-sized southern California cities of over 100,000. (Read the article on page 3 to see how much of an impact Flickinger is having on local government.) The election of Bill Brown would make Starr 3 for 3, and show that Libertarians can win consistently in non-partisan local races.

The best news of the campaign has been an endorsement from Assemblyman Tom McClintock (R-Camarillo). McClintock is California president of the Republican Liberty Caucus and calls himself a "libertarian" though he differs from us on some issues. He is running for Congress this year and has a good chance of beating Democratic incumbent Anthony Beilenson. Since McClintock lives in Camarillo and is running a high profile campaign of his own, his endorsement carries a lot of weight.

Brown's goal is to run ads on cable TV and post yard signs throughout the city. Your contributions are needed to make this campaign a success. Send your checks to "Bill Brown for City Council," 834 Sharon Drive, Camarillo, CA 93010, phone (805) 987-4078. Contributors of \$100 or more will receive a videocassette of Brown's TV ads, as soon as production is complete.

"Sick" -- cont. from previous page

burden. We are locked in a vicious cycle. And every new tax and regulation only compounds the problem. But the only solution to social problems political leaders offer is more government programs, taxes and regulations. Bit by bit, the liberty and entrepreneurial spirit of the American people are being crushed. Unless we stop this vicious cycle by *reducing* the power of government over our economy and lives, this deterioration will continue and accelerate. Periodic recessions will become permanent depressions. The freedom of every family and business will be trampled flat.

Polls report that Americans want *both* better public services and lower taxes. We *can* have both -- by *cutting government spending* and *privatizing inefficient public services* at every level, from the corner post office, to neighborhood schools, to federal and state welfare programs.

Government programs are no substitute for economic liberty. Tax-funded services squander resources because they are protected from competition and the necessity of satisfying customers. Welfare programs consume 75% of "monies for the poor" in overhead costs, versus 5-15% for private charities. On the average, government schools cost 2-4 times more per pupil than independent schools, spend 10 times more on administration, and produce 8 times as many dropouts and illiterates. Goods and services produced for the military routinely cost 10 to 100 times more than equivalent goods sold on the open market.

Economic freedom and individual liberty are inseparable. Business and commerce are simply manifestations of human action. When government exercises tyrannical control over commerce, it's exercising tyrannical control over our lives. To restore prosperity to our nation, we must rediscover the fundamental truth so well understood by America's founders: Prosperity requires liberty: to be productive we must be free.

*Intellectual*

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